

202

STORY *of the*



SHOVLDER STRAP
U·S·M·C· VERSION

THE SHOULDER STRAP

A GENESIS

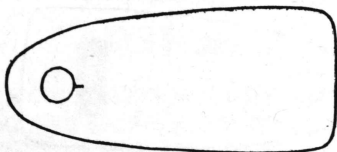
YOU MAY HAVE WONDERED WHY A FIRST LIEUTENANT WEARS A SINGLE BAR ON HIS SHOULDER STRAP AND WHY A LIEUTENANT COLONEL WEARS A SILVER LEAF TO DENOTE HIS RANK. THERE'S A VERY PRETTY STORY CONNECTED THEREWITH AND WE WILL TELL IT HERE IN WORDS AND PICTURES.

THE SHOULDER STRAP RANK DEVICE OF THE SOLDIER OFFICER OF THE NAVY-U-S-MARINE AND THE SHOULDER STRAP OF THE SOLDIER OFFICER OF THE ARMY AND THE SAILOR OFFICER OF THE NAVY, DIFFER LITTLE. THE DISTINCTIVE MARK OF A U-S-MARINE IS THE GLOBE, ANCHOR AND EAGLE HE WEARS ON HIS HAT, THUS:



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SHOULDER STRAP, 2nd Lt. of U.S. MARINES



Base pay, 2nd Lt. of U.S. MARINES, \$1700 per annum

A second lieutenant of the United States Marine Corps and a second lieutenant of the U.S. Army wear nothing on their shoulder straps. That is because they are at the very foot of the ladder and have not yet begun to rise. The rank in the U.S. Navy that corresponds to second lieutenant of the Army or Marines is called "ensign". Lieutenants are frequently referred to as "subalterns" with the accent on the second syllable.



SHOULDER STRAP, 1st Lt. of U.S. MARINES

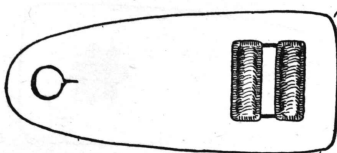


Base pay, 1st Lt. of U.S. MARINES, \$2000 per annum



A first lieutenant of the U.S. Marine Corps and U.S. Army wear one bar on their shoulder straps. The corresponding grade in the U.S. Navy is lieutenant (Junior grade), who wears one bar on his collar and a stripe and a half on his sleeve. The one bar indicates that these officers have begun to climb and have mounted the first rung of the ladder.

SHOULDER STRAP, CAPT. OF U.S. MARINES



Base pay, Capt. of U.S. Marines, \$2400 per annum

A captain of the U.S. Marines and of the U.S. Army wear two bars on their shoulder straps. The corresponding rank in the U.S. Navy is "lieutenant". The navy lieutenant wears two bars on his collar and two full stripes on his sleeve. These officers wear two bars because they have reached the top of this particular ladder which has only two rungs. Officers up to and including captain in the Army or Marines are known as "company officers"; in the Navy under the rank of lieutenant commander are "watch officers".



SHOULDER STRAP, MAJOR OF U.S. MARINES



Base pay, Major, U.S. Marines, \$3000 per annum

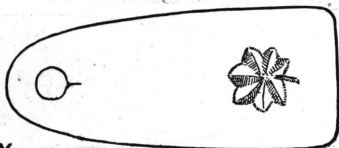


The major of U.S. Marines and of the U.S. Army wear gold leaves on their shoulder straps.

The corresponding rank in the U.S. Navy is lieutenant commander, who wears two and one half stripes on his sleeve and a gold leaf on his collar. These officers wear gold leaves because they have left the ladder and have gone into the tree of promotion.

The leaves of the lower branches of this tree are obscured from the sun and are sore and yellow as a consequence.

SHOULDER STRAP LIEUT. COL. OF U.S. MARINES



Base pay,
Lieut. Col., U.S. Marines \$3500 per annum

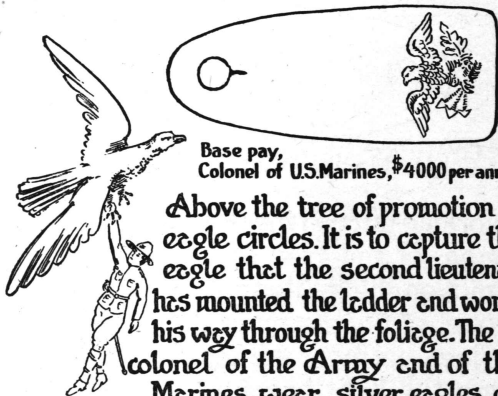
Working through the dense foliage of the tree of promotion the lieutenant colonel of the Army and Marines get near the top where the light breaks through and gives to the leaves a silvery appearance.

The corresponding rank in the U.S. Navy is commander, who wears three stripes on his sleeve and a silver leaf on his collar.

These officers wear silver leaves on their shoulder straps because they are at the top of the tree where the leaves are silvery.



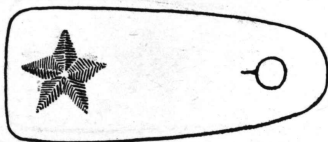
SHOULDER STRAP, COLONEL OF U.S. MARINES



Base pay,
Colonel of U.S. Marines, \$4000 per annum

Above the tree of promotion an eagle circles. It is to capture this eagle that the second lieutenant has mounted the ladder and worked his way through the foliage. The ♦♦ colonel of the Army and of the Marines wear silver eagles on their shoulder straps. The corresponding grade in the U.S. Navy is "captain," who wears four stripes on his sleeve and a silver eagle on his collar. Officers in the Army and Marines from major to ♦♦ colonel, inclusive, are known as "field officers." In the Navy, from lieutenant commander to captain, inclusive, are said to have "command rank."

SHOULDER STRAP, BRIGADIER GENERAL OF U.S. MARINES



Bare pay, Brigadier General
of U.S. Marines, \$6000 per annum



In the blue empyrean, above the
king of birds, a star shines in
single splendor. It is the star of
the brigadier general of the Army
and Marines. The corresponding
rank in the U.S. Navy is
commodore (no longer existent)
who wears a single star
on his collar and one broad
stripe on his sleeve.

When an officer has reached
the grade of general he is
known as a "general" officer;
in the Navy, above the rank of
Captain, "flag officer."



SHOULDER STRAP, MAJOR GENERAL OF U.S. MARINES



**Base pay, Major General
of U.S. Marines, \$8000 per annum**



The major general is two stars in the constellation of rank and promotion. The highest ranking officer in the U.S. Marine Corps is major general. The corresponding rank in the U.S. Navy is rear admiral, who wears two stars on his collar and one broad stripe and a narrower one above it on his sleeve. There are but four stars in the military and naval heavens.

**Lettering and Illustrations by
CORPORAL PAUL WOYSHNER
U.S.M.C. PUB. BU. N.Y.**

DURING THE
PERIOD OF THE
WAR
ALL COMMIS-
SIONS IN THE
UNITED STATES
MARINE CORPS
WILL BE GIVEN
TO WORTHY
ENLISTED MEN.
IF YOU WOULD
REACH THE TREE
OF PROMOTION
IN UNCLE SAM'S
"FIRST TO FIGHT"
BRANCH, YOU'D
BETTER ENLIST
TODAY. IT MAY
MEAN A BRILLIANT
CAREER FOR YOU.

**WHY NOT ENLIST
WITH THE SOLDIERS
OF THE SEA?**

U.S. MARINES

"FIRST TO FIGHT"

**LAND,
SEA
AND
SKY.**

**THERE'S A FREE
BOOKLET FOR
THE ASKING.**

RECRUITING STATION